pay the indemnity, terminate the occupation, frame a constitution, restore her finances, reform her army and find an ally before she could make fresh plans ; but the tradition of *les frontiires naturelles,* inherited from the Monarchy, the Revolution and Napoleon, lived on. " Our policy is peace," declared Thiers; " a reorganized France will always be necessary to Europe." The gospel of work was to restore her strength, her prosperity and her self-respect. One of the chief lessons of history is the resilience of nations. The transition from war to peace was eased by the conciliatory methods of Manteuffel, the Commander-in-Chief of the army of occupation.

The Monarchists possessed a majority in the French Assembly, but they were divided. The future lay with the Republicans, whose leader, in peace and in war, was Gambetta. The first President could be none other than the veteran Thiers, but it was the hero of the National Defence who represented France to herself and to the world. Perhaps in his own good time, it was whispered, in some manner then undreamed of, he might be able to win back the provinces. By tongue and pen he kept courage and hope alive. He founded a journal, *JLa EJpublique Franfaise,* as " a tribune from which the appeal for our rights and our ravished provinces may be made before Europe day by day. France is at the mercy of Germany. We are in a state of latent war ; neither peace nor liberty nor progress is possible." France, he proclaimed in a celebrated speech at St. Quentin, must resume her *role* in the world. " Let us not speak of the foreigner, but let him be ever in our thoughts. Alors vous serez sur le chemin de la revanche." " Bismarck," he wrote with piercing foresight, " has transformed a divided and impotent Germany into a great, disciplined and powerful empire, but

the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine is the death-germ of his work. In such an advanced civilization moral conquest never follows material conquest. Till they have repaired their error no one will lay down his arms. The peace of the world will remain at the mercy of an incident."

Next to the great tribune Paul D£roul£de was the most popular man in France. Enlisting as a private in 1870 he had been wounded, taken prisoner at Sedan, escaped, rejoined the French forces, and fought to the end of the campaign. In 1^72 he published a little volume entitled *Chants du Soldat*$_y$ which, like the *Nouveaux Chants* three years later, were hummed by young conscripts at their work as Korner's stirring lyrics had